

RIDGWAY TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 10, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. in the Community Center at 201 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway, Colorado. The Council was present in its entirety with Councilors Austin, Hawse, Hunter, Williams, Young, Mayor Pro Tem Johnson and Mayor Clark in attendance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Town Attorney requested an executive session pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(b) and (e) for conference with the Town Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice and to discuss matters subject to negotiations.

ACTION:

It was moved by Councilor Young, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson and unanimously carried to enter into closed session.

The Council entered into executive session at 5:30 p.m. with the Town Attorney and Town Manager.

The Council reconvened to open session at 6:00 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 13, 2017.
2. Register of Demands for January 2018.
3. Renewal of Liquor Store License for San Juan Liquors.
4. Pursuant to State Statute, designate the Town Hall bulletin board as the Official Posting Place.

ACTION:

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Johnson and seconded by Councilmember Austin to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried with Councilor Hunter abstaining.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Mayor acknowledged Dan Bartashius for 30 years of service to the Town. He noted Mr. Bartashius has worked in all aspects of the public works department, and now oversees the water treatment facility.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Arianna Sherman with Americorps Colorado introduced the organization's opioid response program, which is a statewide initiative to support local communities to implement strategies to reduce the impact of opioid abuse. She offered to assist the Town and any local organizations with educational opportunities regarding preventative measures.

There was discussion between Ms. Sherman and the Council.

PUBLIC REQUESTS AND PRESENTATIONS

5. Request from Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce to renew contract for marketing services and receive a portion of the lodging tax revenues

Letter dated 1-7-18 from Chamber Board President Colin Lacy presenting the 2018 lodging tax budget and a proposed agreement to provide marketing and promotions for the seventy percent portion of lodging tax receipts.

Mr. Lacy addressed the Council and presented the lodging tax budget for 2018, which he noted is based on five "marketing themes". He reported on areas to be addressed which included print media and advertising, online media and social media, visitor center upgrades and merchandise, website upgrades and operations, visitor guide fulfillment, online presence project, collaboration with the Ouray Resort Association to develop a visitors guide and participation in the Colorado Creative Corridor with other Colorado Creative District communities.

There was discussion and Mr. Lacy asked the Council to approve the proposed scope of services and marketing services agreement.

ACTION:

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson moved to approve the marketing services agreement with the Ridgway Area Chamber of Commerce as presented. Councilor Young seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

6. Planning Commission recommendation to approve plat amendment reducing a utility easement on Lot B, Cora Quad Lot Split

Staff Report dated 1-3-18 from Planner Shay Coburn presenting the Planning Commission recommendation to approve the request for Amendment 1 to the Cora Quad Lot Split.

Planner Coburn addressed the Council and explained the amendment request is to change an overhead utility easement for a power line on a neighboring property, from fifteen to ten feet. She reported the local utility company, San Miguel Power Association, has no objection to the request.

ACTION:

Councilmember Hunter moved, with a second by Councilor Hawse, to approve the plat amendment reducing a utility easement on Lot B Cora Quad Lot Split. The motion carried unanimously.

POLICY MATTERS

7. Request to schedule workshop to discuss the proposed Uncompahgre River Overlay District

Mayor Clark reported after many months of discussion, the Council introduced an ordinance at the last meeting to establish the Uncompahgre River Overlay District. Staff has been working on including the changes requested at the last meeting, and has suggested a

workshop to discuss the proposed changes with landowners and residents. He noted the ordinance can be re-introduced at the next regular meeting.

The Council agreed to holding a workshop on January 25th at 6:00 p.m.

8. Discussion regarding mandatory animal-resistant trash containers

Staff Report from the Town Manager dated 1-10-18 presenting an overview of suggested requirements on the request for proposals for refuse and recycling collection services.

The Town Manager reported at the previous meeting staff was directed to prepare an outline of bid specifications for the waste and recycling contract, noting the current contract expires May 30th. She explained the documents for the request for proposals addresses a five year contract term requiring the use of animal resistant containers and dumpsters. Customers may purchase, or be provided by the contractor, a 65 gallon animal resistant poly cart based upon a monthly fee for weekly curbside service. The contract also addresses extra service charges, services provided to the Town, bulk item pickup and providing each customer use of an 18 gallon recycling bin.

There was discussion by the Council and staff regarding the size of the refuse container. The Town Manager noted the contract for services will allow each customer to dispose of 65 gallons of waste, but the container can be either 32 or 65 gallons. There was consensus to use the bid specifications as presented.

9. Adoption of Resolution Establishing Standards of Conduct for Elected Officials

The Town Attorney presented a draft resolution establishing standards of conduct for members of the Council. He explained adoption of the resolution is encouraged by the Town's insurance provider, and many municipalities have adopted similar documents. At the September meeting the Council addressed meeting protocols and procedures, and the standards work in conjunction with the procedures.

ACTION:

Councilor Austin moved to adopt the Resolution Establishing Standards of Conduct for Elected Officials of the Town of Ridgway, Councilmember Hunter seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

10. Presentation of Social Media Guidelines

Administrative Intern Lu Hauger explained in March the Town Council approved a social media policy and directed staff to create and implement a policy to address managing, maintaining and responsibilities for social media. She presented guidelines prepared by staff, entitled Social Media Policy Implementation and Procedures dated September 2017. Last year, she noted, staff created a new website which is now maintained at Town Hall, and continued use of Mail Chimp, Facebook and Instagram.

Town Manager Coates recommended the Council approve use of the policy, and the Council agreed to the implementation and use.

11. Continuation of the Solar Energy Incentive Program through rebate of sales tax

The Town Manager reported Municipal Code 6-1-12 establishes a solar energy incentive program in which sales tax remitted by a vendor for installation of a solar energy system

within the Town, can be rebated to the taxpayer. The incentive was instituted in 2008 and requires biennial approval of the Council.

ACTION:

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson moved to continue the solar rebate incentive program pursuant to Code Section 6-1-12. Councilor Hunter seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

12. Discussion regarding snow removal on sidewalks

Mayor Pro Tem Johnson noted there is a snow removal policy which requires property owners to clear snow from sidewalks adjacent to their property, yet there are a number of property owners not complying. He expressed concerns with safe sidewalk passage on the highway and within the down town area.

Speaking from the audience Janet Smith asked if the public works department could use Town equipment to remove snow from the sidewalks. Laura Hagert expressed concerns with clearing the sidewalks in front of her commercial building since the installation of benches and tree grates.

There was discussion by Council and staff. Council agreed to another outreach by staff to property owners which suggests hiring a contractor for snow removal services. If snow is not removed within 24 hours either a citation will be issued or the snow will be removed by the Town, and the property owner will be charged for the removal.

13. Appointment to the Ouray County Joint Planning Board

Manager Coates explained the Joint Planning Board, which was formed between the Town and County, has three year staggered terms for two members from each jurisdiction. The term currently held by citizen Rick Weaver is ending, and Mr. Weaver has indicated he is not interested in filling another term.

There was discussion by the Council. The Manager suggested staff reach out to the Planning Commission and public for candidates, and Mr. Weaver could be asked to remain in the position until another volunteer is located.

ACTION:

Councilor Hunter moved to appoint Rick Weaver to the Ouray County Joint Planning Board through January, Mayor Pro Tem Johnson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

Manager Coates reported the electric vehicle charging station has been installed in the parking lot south of Town Hall, and signage is being installed on the highway near the station. She reported on transitions in the administrative offices pertaining to off-site on-line sales tax licensing and reporting, installation of on-line utility payment system and changes in job responsibilities.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Austin reported on the Parks, Trails and Open Space committee priorities for 2018, and an update on the Housing Authority.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Town Attorney requested an executive session pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(b) for conference with the Town Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice.

ACTION:

It was moved by Councilor Young, seconded by Councilmember Hunter and unanimously carried to enter into closed session.

The Council entered into executive session at 7:55 p.m. with the Town Attorney and Town Manager.

The Council reconvened to open session at 8:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Kraft, MMC
Town Clerk